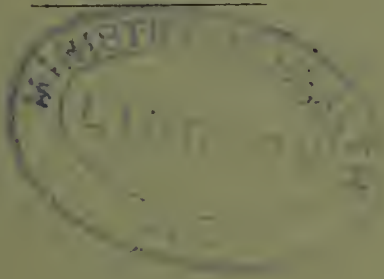


*Library*

CHESTERFIELD  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
for the year  
1954

BY

**JOHN REID GRAHAM, MB., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

Medical Officer of Health.



CHESTERFIELD  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1954

BY

**JOHN REID GRAHAM, MB., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

Medical Officer of Health.

## INDEX

	Page
Rural District Councillors, December, 1954 .....	3
Public Health Staff .....	4
Report .....	5
Statistics .....	6
Social Circumstances of the Area .....	7-8
Inhabited Houses and Caravans .....	9
Approximate Population in Parishes .....	10
Housing :—	
General .....	11
Statistics .....	12-13
Water Supplies and Sewage Disposal Schemes .....	14
Infectious Diseases and Diphtheria Immunisations .....	17
National Assistance Act .....	20
Petroleum Acts .....	21
Verminous Premises .....	21
Places of Entertainment .....	21
Food Inspection and Slaughtering .....	22-24
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 .....	28

## TABLES

Infectious Diseases and Tuberculosis Return ...	15
Deaths in Age Groups .....	16
Treatment Centre .....	18
Birth, Death Rates and Infant Mortality for the last 10 years .....	19
Sanitary Administration .....	25-26
Factories Act, 1937 .....	27

## RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

31st DECEMBER, 1954

---

ASHOVER	.....	Haslam, T. P.
BARLOW	.....	Needham, W.
BEIGHTON:		
Beighton and Hackenthorpe Ward	.....	Ballance, F.
		Turton, B. P.
Frecheville Ward	.....	Hart, E.
		Umpleby, E., Mrs. J.P.
BRACKENFIELD	.....	Boot, C. W.
BRAMPTON	.....	Riggott, G. A.
BRIMINGTON	.....	Everett, W., J.P.
		Horner, W.
CALOW	.....	Maddison, E. A., Mrs.
ECKINGTON:		
Eckington Ward	.....	Kay, H.
Gleadless Ward	.....	Woolhouse, W.
Mosborough Ward	.....	Woodward, H.
Renishaw Ward	.....	Jennings, T. T.
Ridgeway Ward	.....	Hallworth, T. H., M.C., D.S.Sc.
HASLAND	.....	Hargreaves, A.
		Sales, W.
HEATH	.....	Smith, B.
HOLMESFIELD	.....	Eyre, R. H.
KILLAMARSH	.....	Hall, M.
		Marshall, H.
MORTON	.....	Richards, A. E.
NORTH WINGFIELD	.....	Priestnall, E.
		Webster, D.
PILSLEY	.....	Feather, E.
SHIRLAND AND HIGHAM:		
Shirland and Higham Ward	.....	Greenwood, E.
Stonebroom Ward	.....	Fellows, W. E.
STRETTON	.....	Walker, J. R.
SUTTON-CUM-DUCKMANTON	.....	Rosling, A. V., A.M.Inst. B.E.
TEMPLE NORMANTON	.....	Thackray, F.
TUPTON	.....	Sales, S.
UNSTONE	.....	Dawson, E.
WALTON	.....	Birds, J.
WESSINGTON	.....	Clarke, R. F.
WINGERWORTH	.....	Ridd, J. H.

# PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

---

CHAIRMAN, SANITARY COMMITTEE :

H. MARSHALL, Esq.

CHAIRMAN, HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE :

A. E. RICHARDS, Esq.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

JOHN R. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B. (St. And.) D.P.H. (St. And.)

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

T. W. BINNS, F.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector

DEPUTY CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

W. E. BOLTON, Cert. S.I., Meat Inspector

DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS :

G. KEAVENY, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector

W. WOODWARD, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector

W. A. WELLS, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector

R. WILCOCK, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector

R. GOUCHER, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector

F. BARRETT, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector

CHIEF CLERK :

G. F. WILKS, M.B.E.

CLERKS :

L. SILCOCK

S. CAPE

MISS L. MORTON

MRS. M. WALKER

MRS. J. S. BENHAM

MISS K. FORREST

MRS. D. MAYCOCK

MR. M. GLOBE (Pupil Sanitary Inspector  
appointed May, 1954)

## ANNUAL REPORT

---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present the Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1954.

The vital statistics show an increase in both the birth rate and infantile mortality rate.

The estimated population given by the Registrar General is 87,400 an increase of 6,000 from the figures of 1953. The increase is mainly due to the new developments of the Sheffield Corporation at Hackenthorpe and Frecheville.

Just how the new population will affect the vital statistics is uncertain at present and, in fact, in these areas the population of the new estates is as yet by no means stable; many changes are occurring weekly.

It is noticeable that many of the houses are used more or less as sleeping places, and it is not uncommon for sanitary inspectors and other officials to have to visit two or three times and find an empty house.

The de-control of meat meant the opening of some 21 slaughter-houses in the area and the inspection of meat has taken up a very considerable proportion of your sanitary inspectors' time.

The year has been one of steady progress and, despite the disappointments in the housing allocation, one hopes that the clearance programme can be accelerated in the following year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health

Health Offices,

Rural Council House,  
Chesterfield

## STATISTICS

Area of District	69,139 acres
Population (Registrar General's Figure)	87,400
Number of Inhabited Houses and Caravans	
In the District	28,728
Rateable Value	£415,570
Estimated Product of Penny Rate for the year ending 31st March, 1956	£1,564

LIVE BIRTHS :	M.	F.
Total	752	780
Legitimate	739	753
Illegitimate	13	27

STILL BIRTHS :		
Total	34	21
Legitimate	34	19
Illegitimate	—	2

BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION :	17.52
-----------------------------------	-------

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE :	M.	F.
Total	24	25
Legitimate	24	24
Illegitimate	—	1

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE :		
Total	15	17
Legitimate	15	17
Illegitimate	—	—

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE :	
Total	31.98 per 1,000 live births
Legitimate	32.17 per 1,000 legitimate births
Illegitimate	25.0 per 1,000 illegitimate births

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVING :	9.39
-------------------------------	------

MATERNAL MORTALITY per 1,000 live (and still)	1.26
Deaths from Measles, all ages	Nil
Whooping Cough, all ages	1



## SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT

---

There is full employment in the district and new industries are being introduced.

The new carbonisation and by-product plant at Wingerworth should be in operation in 1956 ; and is probably the first major project of "things to come". Coal, which, in this district has been the main industry will still be required, but if atomic energy can be harnessed to industry, coal will no longer be material for "burning" but a material which can be the source of many products of the new age.

It is to be hoped that some new industry will be introduced that can provide light work. To-day nearly all the industries call for fit labour and there are comparatively few jobs for men who are partially disabled either through illness or accident.

On the 1st January, 1954, the Rural District became a specified area for the sale of designated milks. This means that the only types of milk that can be sold in the area are Pasteurised, Sterilised, Tuberculin Tested, Tuberculin Tested (pasteurised), Tuberculin Tested (sterilised) and Accredited, but after the 30th September, 1954, the last mentioned designation ceased to be used.

All the above named milks must be sold in approved labelled containers.

The effect of this order is that all milk delivered in the Rural Area is bottled and the majority of supplies come either directly, or indirectly, through the distributors, from one or other of the big dairy companies.

During the year one or two complaints of dirty bottles being delivered have been received. The dairy which bottled the milk has been visited and the management on each occasion expressed great regret, and I think one can say that every precaution is taken that no dirty bottle comes off the filling line and is delivered to the public. In spite of all care and mechanical aids to cleanliness the human element is bound to make mistakes at times and a dirty bottle will escape scrutiny.

Most of the dirty or imperfect bottles that do get through are ones which have been kept for some time by the consumers (canteens on building sites being the biggest sinners in this respect) and not returned quickly to the dairy. The milk residue becomes congealed and hardened and the washing plant, though very efficient, cannot deal with this type of contamination. Nevertheless, the dairy companies are solely responsible for producing milk in clean bottles, but the public could help very greatly by rinsing the empty bottles and ensuring their

prompt return to the distributor.

I may add that the dairy company stated that bottles returned from most housewives were in good condition.

The following figures have been supplied by a local dairy company relative to dirty and imperfect bottles—

Average number of bottles filled per week	625,000
Average number of bottles which have to be discarded per week	150
Average number of bottles "spotted" on the filling line as dirty and unfit	1,400 per week

The improvement in health due to the area being specified for the sale of designated milk cannot be reckoned in figures, but it does mean that the milk consumed, and this applies especially to young children, is as safe a food when delivered to the home as human ingenuity can devise at the present time.

---

Although there are no factories in the Rural Area, certain industrial plants are giving considerable trouble with smoke and dust emissions and there is ever present trouble of burning spoil tips at some of the collieries.

The coking ovens at Holmewood have been probably the chief offenders in smoke emission.

Meetings have taken place with the officials of the National Coal Board, but in spite of this the nuisance continues. The problem is by no means easy to solve, as many factors are involved and every effort is being made by the officials of the Council to improve matters.

One rather fears in view of this what is in store for the surrounding districts of Wingerworth, Tupton and Grassmoor when the new Avenue carbonisation plant at Wingerworth goes into production.

## CHESTERFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

# INHABITED HOUSES AND CARAVANS, 31st MARCH, 1955.

Parish	Number of Inhabited Houses and Caravans	Number on Water Supply N.E.D.J.W.C.	Number on Supply C.B. & C. Water Board
Ashover	659	279	—
Barlow	292	244	—
Beighton	6792	6761	—
Brackenfield	77	60	—
Brampton	321	—	169
Brimington	2178	—	2392
Calow	563	—	551
Eckington	5419	5110	— *
Hasland	1099	—	1095
Heath	409	405	—
Holmesfield	381	279	—
Killamarsh	1636	1629	—
Morton	321	315	—
North Wingfield	2310	2308	—
Pilsley	820	804	—
Shirland & Higham	1603	1567	—
Stretton	186	168	—
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	456	187	206
Temple Normanton	170	170	—
Tupton	900	899	—
Unstone	642	629	—
Walton	633	—	537
Wessington	208	169	—
Wingerworth	653	534	57

\* Part of Parish supplied by mains of Sheffield Corporation

## APPROXIMATE POPULATION IN THE PARISHES

The Registrar General has given 87,400 as the estimated population of the Rural District, an increase of nearly 6,000 over the previous year. This gives an approximate population per house of 3.04 persons.

It is on this figure that the estimated population of the parishes is calculated and the parishes where a fairly big building programme has been completed there will show on paper an increase of population though, in fact, this may not be so, while other parishes where no building has taken place may show a decrease in numbers.

Ashover	2,010
Barlow	891
Beighton	20,716
Brackenfield	235
Brampton	979
Brimington	6,643
Calow	1,717
Eckington	16,528
Hasland	3,352
Heath	1,247
Holmesfield	1,162
Killamarsh	4,990
Morton	979
North Wingfield	7,045
Pilsley	2,501
Shirland and Higham	4,889
Stretton	567
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	1,391
Temple Normanton	518
Tupton	2,745
Unstone	1,958
Walton	1,930
Wessington	634
Wingerworth	1,992

## HOUSING

The new Housing Rents and Repairs Act came into force this year, and housing action is now being carried out according to the provisions of the new Act.

It is yet early to say whether the object of improving housing conditions is expedited or simplified under this Act, but it does seem that some of the sections are liable to ambiguity and that the standards of fitness that can be obtained are somewhat lower than could be achieved under previous legislation.

One feature of housing that is definitely disturbing is the small allocation of houses allowed by the Ministry of Housing for the year. It may be, of course, that the final allocations to local authorities are being held in abeyance until such time as the "Five Year" Housing Programmes are received and considered by the appropriate Ministries, but at present it does seem that houses are being allocated regardless of the numbers which will have to be demolished. As in this area, it is estimated that 3,000 houses should be demolished and if the present allocation is not increased, it will mean that the unfit property will be always with us.

One interesting development is the rebuilding on Clearance Area Sites in Mosborough. For some time the areas of old dilapidated houses have been an eyesore, and when completed the new houses will form part of the old township and not give the impression of entering a "deserted village."

House building has proceeded apace during 1954; the Rural Council completed 963 houses during the year, giving a total of 3,770 completed and if the weather is kind the 4,000th house should be erected in the first half of 1955.

Private enterprise has erected 176 houses during the year and a total of 620 since the end of the war.

Sheffield Corporation has completed a total of 3,917 houses and the Coal Industry Housing Association 1,522.

The Sheffield Corporation houses have been solely for Sheffield people, but the Coal Industry's houses have helped to relieve the waiting list of the Rural District Council to the extent of rehousing over 700 families.

Despite this, the numbers on the housing lists do not appreciably diminish. There are some 3,000 applications on the books at present; of these applications 1,360 are from families in shared accommodation, 500 from overcrowded families in self-contained dwellings, and the remainder are from families wishing to obtain more modern accommodation.

On the present figures the housing needs are 5,000 houses for all purposes. If the allocation of 250-300 houses per annum is to be the allowance from the Ministry, it will be 20 years before the present arrears can be wiped out, quite regardless of further demands in the future.

## HOUSING

1.	Inspection of dwelling houses during the year 1954 :—	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	523
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	523
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	108
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	108
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	108
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	415
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—	
	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	164
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
	(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
	(a) By owners	1
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	89
	(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
	(a) By owners	32
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	84



(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	19
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished by informal action .....	—

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	4
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	—

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	180
(2) Number of persons dwelling therein .....	1,466
(3) Number of families dwelling therein .....	248
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	—
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	14
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases .....	103
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps to the abatement of overcrowding .....	—

5. Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas, 1954 .....	67
---	----

## OVERCROWDING BEDROOM STANDARD.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	1,428
(2) Number of persons dwelling therein .....	8,606
(3) Number of families dwelling therein .....	1,980
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	2
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	105
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases .....	591
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps to the abatement of overcrowding .....	—

## WATER SUPPLIES.

---

In the area of the North East Derbyshire Joint Water Committee the main works carried out have been the laying of housing estate mains. A trunk main from Eckington Service Reservoir to Station Road, Eckington, was also laid during this period.

The following samples were taken from their various undertakings :—

Total number taken	489
Satisfactory	443
Unsatisfactory	46

The majority of the unsatisfactory samples were taken from new mains shortly after they had been laid.

### WORKS CARRIED OUT BY THE CHESTERFIELD, BOLSOVER AND CLOWNE WATER BOARD.

The Brampton and Walton Supply Scheme is now nearly 80% complete. In Brampton Parish the mains are charged with water up to Ingmanthorpe, Pratt Hall, Wigley, Wadshelf and Eastmoor.

The small reservoir and pump house at Riddings is practically complete and in operation.

The contractor has commenced work on the small reservoir at Slate Pit Dale, Walton, and apart from a few main connections near the reservoir, the mainlaying part of the scheme is complete and fully charged with water.

The Engineer and Surveyor reports the following :—

“With regard to sewerage and sewage disposal schemes Ministry approval has been received for the reconstruction of Wheeldon Mill sewage disposal works and final approval is awaited for the Northern Area Scheme, the enquiry for which was held during the year.”



TABLE 1.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	Total Number Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox .. .. .	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	163	84	—
Diphtheria ... .. .	—	—	—
Typhoid ... .. .	—	—	—
Para-typhoid ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever } ...	9	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia }			
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	5	5	1
Pneumonia ... .. .	125	26	42
Erysipelas ... .. .	27	2	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ... ..	3	3	1
„ (Non-Paralytic) ... .. .	4	4	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	1	1
Measles ... .. .	496	3	—
Whooping Cough ... .. .	290	9	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	—	—
Dysentery ... .. .	14	1	—
Food Poisoning . ... ..	1	1	—

TABLE 2.

## TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1954

Age Period	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over ...	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
5 and over ... ..	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
15 and over ... ..	5	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
25 and over ... ..	5	8	2	1	—	2	—	—
35 and over ... ..	8	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 and over ... ..	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 and over ... ..	3	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 and over ... ..	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total	28	19	7	5	—	5	—	—
Not Primary					Not Notified			
Cases included above	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 3.

## DEATHS IN AGE GROUP, 1954

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	24	25	49
1-5 years	2	2	4
5-10 years	—	4	4
10-15 years	3	—	3
15-20 years	1	2	3
20-25 years	—	4	4
25-35 years	10	10	20
35-45 years	18	8	26
45-55 years	44	17	61
55-65 years	60	52	112*
65-70 years	55	42	97
70-75 years	68	56	124
75-80 years	69	74	143
80-85 years	43	54	97
85-90 years	27	30	57
90-95 years	5	8	13
95-100 years	1	1	2
Over 100 years		1	1
	430	390	820

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The notifications of infectious diseases during the year show, on the whole, a decrease over the previous year.

The measles, scarlet fever and whooping cough were generally of a mild type, though one death was attributed to whooping cough in an infant of four weeks old.

Seven cases of poliomyelitis were notified, three being paralytic and four non-paralytic. There was one fatal case.

There was one fatal case of meningitis from the five notified, and the only case of encephalitis notified also had a fatal termination.

---

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

Number of children who had Primary Immunisations in the Authority's area during the year 1954.

Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9 (incl.)	10-14 (incl.)	Total
17	396	152	50	17	287	29	948

TABLE 4.  
TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK.

No. of cases—49	Adults	5-15	Under 5	Total
<b>SCABIES.</b>				
Bolsover U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield Borough .....	2	1	0	3
Chesterfield R.D.C. ....	3	0	1	4
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 7
<b>HEAD LICE.</b>				
Bolsover U.D.C. ....	1 (1)	3 (3)	1 (1)	5 (5)
Chesterfield Borough .....	1 (0)	3 (0)	3 (0)	7 (0)
Chesterfield R.D.C. ....	3 (2)	11 (6)	0	14 (8)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ....	0	9 (2)	1 (0)	10 (2)
	<hr/> 5 (3)	<hr/> 26 (11)	<hr/> 5 (1)	<hr/> 36 (15)
<b>SCABIES WITH VERMINOUS HEADS.</b>				
Bolsover U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield Borough .....	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield R.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0
Diagnosis not confirmed .....	0			
Miscellaneous .....	4			
Pediculosis Corporis .....	1	Chesterfield R.D.C. adult		
Pediculosis Pubis .....	1	Clowne R.D.C. adult		
	<hr/> 6			

Note :—The numbers in brackets refer to those on whom live lice were found.

TABLE 5.

TABLE SHOWING BIRTH, DEATH RATES AND  
INFANT MORTALITY FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS.

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Living	Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Death Rate for 1,000 Live Births
1954	17.52	9.39	31.98
1953	17.1	8.7	25.71
1952	15.4	9.6	35.01
1951	15.3	11.0	28.42
1950	16.0	10.8	38.0
1949	17.65	10.0	42.07
1948	19.2	9.81	37.11
1947	20.91	10.39	48.27
1946	20.44	10.28	41.80
1945	18.83	10.41	42.98
1944	22.26	9.09	36.25

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

No action was taken during the year under the above mentioned Acts, but three cases were investigated.

In my report of last year I stated that old folks were best left in their own homes as long as possible. In some recent cases I have had to deal with, circumstances have come to light which make me question whether this policy is, in fact, in the best interests of the old folk.

It cannot be too often emphasized that old persons come to a state where they appear or give the impression that they are quite unaware of the squalor of their surroundings, but in a case recently investigated an old lady's diary showed that this impression, at least in her case, was wrong.

The lady was, from the entries in her diary, miserable and unhappy and only too conscious that things were going wrong, but she did not want to go to an institution

**I** am coming round to the opinion that many old folk do not wish to change or go to an institution because of the fear of the unknown. Also with people of 65 years and over the word "institution" at home seems to conjure up a vision of the Victorian Age Workhouse and the harsh conditions imposed on the inmates in that harsh era.

In conversation with Welfare Workers and people who have been in contact with old folk the opinion is, and with which I agree, if there is a certain amount of pressure used many of the aged people will go to an institution, and in nine cases out of ten, after getting over the first upset of the change, they are happier in the new state than in the old.

Very often they are like children who don't quite know what they want and feel happier if someone takes direction of their affairs.

Whichever way one considers the question, however, the fact remains that in taking action we are regulating a person's life and very often, unfortunately, action that in the opinion of officials and others seems best for the individual concerned does not quite fall in with the individual's wishes and desires.

## PETROLEUM ACTS.

Eight new petroleum stores have been constructed and ten have been discontinued to be used during the year, making the present total of 149 separate stores. These have a total capacity of 266,020 gallons.

There are three calcium of carbide stores with a licensed capacity of 3,002 lbs.

The stores have been inspected and found to comply with the provisions of the Acts.

Licence fees amounted to £106/5/0.

## VERMINOUS PREMISES.

During the year 42 dwelling houses have been treated as compared with 45 the previous year.

## PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

During the year 73 pail and privy conversions were carried out.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

	No. in use at end of 1954
Water Closets	27,958
Other	2,289
	<hr/>
	30,247
	<hr/>

## PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.

These are periodically visited to ensure reasonable cleanliness and proper maintenance of sanitary conveniences.

# 22

## FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year, Food Premises have been kept under supervision by your Inspectors and, in consequence, the undermentioned quantities of foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption. In all instances the food was surrendered to the Inspectors and it was removed from the premises and destroyed.

	Tins, jars, etc.
Apricots	43
Apricot Jam	13
Baked Beans	103
Beef Loaf	2
Beetroot	1
Bilberries	1
Blackcurrant Jam	10
Cherries	4
Cochineal	1
Coffee Essence	4
Cooked Shoulder Ham	36
Corned Beef	9
Cream	31
Damsons	11
Figs	4
Fruit Salad	2
Golden Syrup	25
Gooseberries	3
Grapes	46
Grapefruit	3
Grape Jam	3
Irish Stew	1
Jellied Veal	3
Lemon Cheese	1
Lobster	4
Luncheon Meat	72
Mango Slices	6
Macaroni	18
Marmalade	13
Meat Paste	1
Meat & Gravy	2
Milk	104
Mincemeat	17
Molasses	4
Orange Segments	1
Ox Tongues	14
Peaches	28
Pears	23
Peas	49
Pilchards	3
Pineapples	14
Plums	14
Plum Jam	3
Pork	2
Pressed Beef	1



Tins, jars, etc

Prunes	21
Rabbit	1
Raspberries	3
Salad Cream	2
Salmon	7
Sandwich Spread	1
Sauce	24
Sardines	2
Sheeps Tongues	1
Soup	35
Spaghetti	2
Spaghetti & Sausage	6
Stewed Steak	13
Strawberries	17
Strawberry Jam	22
Tomatoes	384
Tomato Sauce	5
Tuna Fish	1
Total	1,300

Packets

Cheese Spread	177
Dried Egg	6
Rice Crispies	2
Shredded Wheat	1
Stoned Dates	15
Wheat Flakes	1
Total	202

lbs.

Bacon	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Butter	27
Cake	17 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cheese	154
Corned Beef	2
Cooked Shoulder Ham	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dates	2
Dessicated Coconut	4
Flour	5
Lard	23 $\frac{1}{2}$
Margarine	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oatmeal	- $\frac{1}{2}$
Ox Tongues	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Preserving Crystals	4
Rice	- $\frac{1}{2}$
Sausages	25
Tea	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Veal	- $\frac{1}{2}$
Total	305 $\frac{3}{4}$

Bread Loaves .....	3
Chocolate Biscuits .....	19
Chocolate Tea Cakes .....	80
Fish Cake .....	1
Malt Loaves .....	3
Marshmallow Cups .....	70
Puddings .....	12
Total .....	<hr/> 188 <hr/>

Private slaughtering commenced on the 2nd July, 1954, and 17 slaughterhouses commenced operations at the beginning of the scheme.

During the six months ending December, 1954, the number of carcasses inspected was :

Cows .....	885
Other Bovines .....	391
Calves .....	194
Sheep .....	3146
Pigs .....	740
Total ..	<hr/> 5356 <hr/>

The total weight of meat and organs found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned was 283 cwts., 2 qrs., 8 lbs.

TABLE 6.

## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections made	Notices served	Nuisances abated with or without notice
Dairies	2	3	—	—
Bakehouses	27	21	—	—
+ Slaughterhouses (Licensed)	22	+ 504	2	6
Offensive Trades	1	1	—	—
Common Lodging Houses	1	4	—	1
TOTALS ...	53	533	2	7

+ Includes 2 knackers premises and visits made for the purpose of meat inspection.

TABLE 7.  
SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.  
SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SANITARY  
DEPARTMENT.

	No. of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors	No. of Nuisances in respect of which Notices were served		No. of Nuisances abated with or or without Notice
		Informal	Legal	
CLOSETS & ASHPITS				
Defective privies, pail closets and ashpits (not for conversion)...	45	16	2	18
Conversion of privies into W.C.'s ...	743	34	10	53
Conversion of pail closets into W.C.'s ...	88	4	—	20
Conversion of privies into pail closets ...	—	—	—	—
Defective water closets ...	163	45	11	45
Provision of additional water closets ...	67	2	—	8
Provision of portable ashbins ...	1,723	1,435	—	1,435
Dirty closets... ..	2	2	—	2
DRAINAGE				
No disconnection of waste pipe...	—	—	—	—
Defective waste pipe, traps, inlets and drains ...	940	105	7	155
Drains obstructed ...	239	88	5	86
OTHER DEFECTS				
Paving of Courts and Yards ...	52	21	2	17
Roofs, eaves-spouts and down-spouts ...	455	115	31	107
Sinks ...	69	14	4	20
Insufficient ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Windows ...	149	38	16	39
Dampness ...	285	56	18	70
Water in cellars ...	28	6	1	9
Water supply ...	116	7	1	30
Overcrowding ...	16	—	—	3
Foul condition of houses ...	109	8	—	30
Offensive accumulations ...	11	1	1	3
Animals improperly kept ...	38	3	—	20
Pigsties ...	75	6	—	19
Smoke Nuisances ...	80	—	—	10
Urinals ...	17	—	—	—
Nuisances not specified above ...	496	109	65	193
Totals	6,006	2,115	* 174	2,392

No. of visits to Infectious Disease cases—215

\*Note. The actual number of separate notices served was—73

TABLE 8.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

	Number of		
	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	91	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—
Total	95	—	—

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year 871 premises have been visited by your Inspectors and 164 surface infestations dealt with by the rat catchers to secure satisfactory elimination of rats and mice. Periodical visits continue to be made to certain business premises which are particularly susceptible to infestation and treatments are carried out when necessary. All the Council's sewage works and refuse tips are kept under observation and when infestations are found appropriate action is taken.

The type of property and infestations dealt with are as follows :

Type of Property	Number of Treatments carried out	Type of Infestation		
		Rats		Mice
		Major	Minor	
Council Property ... ..	55	6	49	—
Council Houses ... ..	47	2	37	8
+ Private Houses ... ..	35	—	27	8
Other Property (includes business and schools) . . . . .	27	4	16	7
TOTAL ...	164	12	129	23

+ Includes houses erected by Sheffield Corporation.

There are 61 separate sewerage systems with a total of 2,162 sewer manholes in the district; these have been test baited and all systems found to be infested have received two treatments during the year. The present position is that 48 of the sewerage systems are now clear of rats and infestations in the remaining 13 systems have been further reduced.

Two part-time rat catchers are employed and operate in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries requirements. The operations during the year have resulted in an estimated kill of 2,412 rats from surface treatments and with regard to sewer treatments, which it is impracticable to give a reasonable estimate, I can only say that the kill has been considerable.



---

PRINTED BY

GEO. ALLEN, (PRINTERS) LTD.

BRIMINGTON, CHESTERFIELD.

---